REMARKS

The foregoing Preliminary Amendment is requested in order to delete the multiple dependent claims and avoid paying the multiple dependent claims fee.

Early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOBSON HOLMAN PLLC

Βv

John C. Holman Reg. No. 22,769

400 Seventh Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20004-2201

(202) 638-6666

Atty. Docket: P70975US0 Date: December 12, 2005

JCH/cmf